

Elora Co-Operative Preschool Agenda Annual General Meeting September 19, 2023 at 8:00pm Elora Preschool Big Room

1.) Welcome

Welcome new and returning families. The board was introduced and their roles.

2.) Review agenda

3.) Review of previous General Meeting minutes (Spring 2023); vote

- Motioned by Katie Fallis, seconded by Vanessa Morden, accepted by all.

4.) General preschool reminders for upcoming year

-A reminder to complete your payment information

-Families opting out of the cooperative duty, will be charged the \$250.00 fee next week.

a.) Committees

-A reminder to connect with your co-op duty committee and watch for communication on tasks/schedules. The committees will meet at the end of the AGM.

b.) Trike-a-thon

-Trike-a-thon is taking place soon and the committees have been working hard on the event. A reminder for all families to join us for the event and BBQ.

c.) Halloween Party

-Planning for the Halloween party has started, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone at the event.

5.) Review year end financials from 2022-2023 school year; vote

-The year end financials were reviewed, motioned by Jenna Caswell, seconded by Laura Pastirik, accepted by all. The fundraising team and the membership did an excellent job with fundraising last year. We also received money from Curl for a Cause. There are areas where we are below budget. We have a revenue of \$25,000 in the bank.

6.) Review budget for 2023-2024 school year; vote

-Budget was reviewed, motioned by Kirsten Gough, seconded by Sarah Barnett

-Costs have increased for food expenses as well as for legal fees as CWELCC requires an audit to be completed. The budget reflects that \$6,000 was added to cover the cost. This will be a yearly cost.

-Fall 2022 AGM it was voted to increase program fees, a large portion of the fees have been used to increase the teachers wages as previously discussed.

-We have set a fundraising goal of \$15,000 this year

-If we stay on budget we would have approximately \$1,000 in the bank.

7.) Incoming board member; vote

-Elizabeth was voted for the Social board position. Motioned by Larry Chen, seconded by Samantha Turner-Lahey

8.) Update on CWELCC

-We have submitted our application and just received notification that we have been approved. However we were approved at our 2022/2023 program fees. The program fees are frozen for an undetermined amount of time. If we were to opt in using our previous fees the preschool would be in a deficit of approximately \$20,000 if running with full classes. We currently have 4 open spots which increases the deficit to approximately \$30,000.

- We do have savings however it's not an unlimited amount and we could only support the preschool for approximately 1-2 years. A year end audit is also required yearly which is an added expense. If we opt-in the teachers' wages would not change.
- To opt in and not have a deficit we would need to fundraise approximately \$35,000.
- We have spoken with the County and unfortunately no accommodations can be made.
- The membership's input, concerns and opinions are important and feel the membership needs to be included in this decision as it impacts all of the families. We will do an online vote to determine if we will opt in or not. The decision will be made by a majority vote.
- This is a difficult decision to make and a thorough conversation took place with many ideas and suggestions presented by the membership. Everyone's engagement was greatly appreciated.

9.) Spring General Meeting Reminder

- Date to be confirmed.

10.) Questions

Can the preschool apply for grants?

The preschool does apply for various grants but if the membership knows of further grants they are encouraged to forward them to the board. Connecting with the Legion was suggested.

What are the funds in the bank account for and can we use them?

Previous donations and funds raised were specific to purchasing a new playground. We could use some of these funds however if the ministry was to not pass our playground in the future we would then not have the funds to use that were allocated for the playground.

If we were to opt in, how soon will the payments change?

It would happen very quickly and families would receive retro payment.

Can a document be sent to the membership outlining the CWELCC information?

A thorough chart will be sent out with "key considerations" for families to review before voting. We will include an opt in/opt out scenario, so families who missed the discussion will have the information before voting. This will include financial information.

11.) Adjournment of Meeting Portion

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm. Motioned to adjourn by Sarah Barnett and seconded by Katie Gillis

12.) Brief committee connect